

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 DUSSEL 00791 281509Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04  
NSAE-00 SIL-01 L-03 INT-05 /041 W  
-----290235Z 029654 /75

R 281440Z APR 77  
FM AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3146  
USMISSION USBERLIN  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMCONSUL BREMEN  
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS  
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT  
AMCONSUL HAMBURG  
AMCONSUL MUNICH  
AMCONSUL STUTTGART

UNCLAS DUSSELDORF 0791

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ELAB, GW  
SUBJECT: PAY BOOST FOR RUHR COAL MINERS

REF: DUSSELDORF 0636

1. ON APRIL 26 THE BARGAINING COMMITTEES OF THE GERMAN MINE AND ENERGYWORKERS UNION AND OF THE EMPLOYERS ASSOCIATION OF THE RUHR COAL INDUSTRY AGREED, AFTER PROTRACTED AND DIFFICULT NEGOTIATIONS, TO A 6.4 PERCENT ACROSS THE BOARD PAY BOOST FOR THE 155,000 EMPLOYEES IN THE RUHR COAL INDUSTRY, EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 1977.

2. AS A FRINGE BENEFIT THE WORKERS WERE GIVEN AN ADDITIONAL DM 13 PER MONTH FOR WEALTH ACCUMULATION, WHICH WILL BRING THEM UP TO THE ENTIRE DM 624 ALLOWANCE (TAX FREE) PROVIDED FOR BY THE LAW.

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3. COMMENT: THE PAY BOOST FALLS SHORT OF THE ORIGINAL UNION DEMAND OF 8 PERCENT BUT THE UNION IS SATISFIED AND SPEAKS OF "A SUCCESSFUL BARGAINING ROUND IN A DIFFICULT SITUATION". THE EMPLOYERS DECLARED THAT THEY AGREED TO THE INCREASE WITH SOME RELUCTANCE. THE EXTENT OF THE BOOST HAD BEEN DETERMINED BY GENERAL COLLECTIVE BARGAINING DEVELOPMENTS, WHICH HAD RAISED CERTAIN INCOME EXPECTATIONS AMONG THE MINE

WORKERS. THE CONTRACT WILL IN ALL PROBABILITY BE  
EXTENDED TO ALL OTHER GERMAN HARD COAL MINING AREAS, I.E.  
AACHEN, SAAR AND IBSENBUEREN AND WILL FINALLY COVER ABOUT  
196,000 MINeworkERS. FOR THE RUHR COAL INDUSTRY EACH PERCENT  
OF WAGE INCREASE WILL MEAN AN ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE OF 60  
MILLION DM. THIS SIGNIFIES A COST INCREASE OF DM 5.33 (\$2.22)  
PER TON, WHICH PRESENTLY SELLS AT AN AVERAGE PRICE OF DM 160  
(\$66.67) PER TON. (ONE EQUALS DM 2.40.) HOWEVER, A SPOKESMAN  
FOR THE INDUSTRY ANNOUNCED THAT COAL PRICE INCREASES ARE NOT  
YET CONTEMPLATED.DUX

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COAL, MINING, PERSONNEL, WAGES, COST OF LIVING WAGE ADJUSTMENT  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 28-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 DUSSELDORF 636  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** ELAB, GE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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